

## SENsational Parent Newsletter A Midsummer Night's Dream

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the eleventh edition of the SENsational newsletter. Our quote for the week talks about summer as a warm blanket although this might make sleeping through a heat wave difficult! We hope you are safely enjoying the summer weather.

### Thought for the week

**“I love how summer just wraps its arm around you like a warm blanket.”**

**Kellie Elmore. Author.**



### Deciding what to do

There are lots of other resources and suggestions for activities on our home learning website. In our newsletter we have given a selection of examples.

<https://www.integra.co.uk/home-learning/>

### Supporting Transition Times

- **Supporting a child returning to school after lockdown** - if your child is one of the children who are returning to school, here are some tips on how you can support them to transition back to school life. <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/supporting-a-child-returning-to-school-after-lockdown/>
- **Year 6 transition activities** from Young Minds - transitioning from primary to secondary school is a particularly significant change for children. It is important that we acknowledge how they feel and help them gain skills to find solutions or strategies to manage these feelings. Download this free transition activity booklet for activity ideas and lesson plans to support Year 6 children with their upcoming transition. <https://youngminds.org.uk/media/2882/ym-fyf-teacher-resource-year-6.pdf>

### Social stories

An extensive list of primary social stories is available from Tara Tuchel at Autism Little Learners. These include stories about riding on the bus, wearing a mask, doctors and other staff wearing PPE, going back to school, social distancing and going for walks.

<https://www.autismlittlelearners.com/2020/06/what-is-social-distancing-story.html>

### Support for Parents and Carers

South Glos Parents and Carers virtual support service is available so that you can join the fortnightly online support group, to share challenges and celebrate successes with those who truly understand. One-to-one support is also available by arrangement via video call, phone call or email. Visit the [South Glos Parents and Carers website for further information on the virtual online support available.](#)

Studio 3 free webinars - free webinars every Tuesday from 3 until 6. On Tuesday 30 June join Dene Donalds for a session on Mindfulness for Families and staff. You can also catch up on past webinars. [Weblink](#)

**Frequently Asked Questions** - South Gloucestershire Coronavirus FAQ site has answers to frequently asked questions to support you [here](#).

**Contact us with your COVOD queries on [SENDCOVIDenquiry@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:SENDCOVIDenquiry@southglos.gov.uk) or 01454 866123.**

The telephone helpline will be available between 9 and 1 on weekdays (except Bank Holidays) but you can email in at any time. We aim to get back to you within 48 hours. Any questions posed to this helpline will be used to inform an FAQ section on the South Gloucestershire website.

This week's activities you might want to try – many are linked to Shakespeare's comedy A Midsummer Night's Dream or to characters that appear in it.

### Skills Builders activities

- A Midsummer Night's Dream – word chain printable puzzle for secondary from the TES – fit the Shakespeare play character's names into a grid. [Weblink](#)
- Be inspired by nature to write a story or create some butterfly or ladybird art. [Weblink](#)
- Try creating a comic book with this template. [Weblink](#)
- Video short retelling of a Midsummer Night's Dream suitable for primary children with a shortened version to download and share – suitable for all ages. [Weblink](#)
- A Midsummer Night's Dream comedy adapted by the BBC for KS2 and KS3 as a cartoon. [Weblink](#)
- Find out about William Shakespeare and his life and plays by doing some research. Activity Village has some ideas to start you off including some printable resources, puzzles and worksheets. [Weblink](#)

### Calm and Happy (wellbeing)

- A Midsummer Night's Dream Colouring Adventure provides free downloadable colouring sheets based on Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' – it allows upper primary and secondary to tag and share their masterpieces. [Weblink](#)
- Summer sensory play ideas for toddlers gives ideas for engaging sensory play for pre-schoolers including water play, sensory bins, summer ice art and information about summer crafts for young children. [Weblink](#)
- Are power struggles common in your life, home and family at the moment? Here is a really good graphic to remind you of the alternatives graphic via: Kristin Wiens on Twitter <https://twitter.com/kwiens62>. [Weblink](#) to Positive Parenting Solutions with reminders such as offer choice not orders, give responsibility, start with strengths and ask for their opinion. Remember to avoid making threats, respect boundaries and reflect on your own need for power and control.
- "I gotta feeling" - top tips for feeling good - I Gotta Feeling is a self-help guide for young people to help cope with stress. This booklet lists some things that young people have found helped them feel better when they felt sad, stressed or angry. A useful booklet for year 6 children transitioning to secondary school, a time which often brings about feelings of worry. [Weblink](#)

### Be Creative

- Flower Press Fairy Pictures - get creative with flower pressing. [Weblink](#)
- Summer Solstice Activities for children to help them learn about the sun and moon, make beautiful sun weavings, create nature mandalas and make a flower crown. [Weblink](#)
- Make your own Swedish midsummer garlands using this photographic guide to making a flower garland to celebrate midsummer. [Weblink](#)
- Fairy houses – instructions for primary children to make fun fairy houses out of recycled materials. [Weblink](#)
- Make fruit ice pops and lollies.



### Keep Active

- 35 virtual summer camp ideas to add fun and excitement to your child's summer. These ideas from The Big Life Journal team has some great ideas including help you! This is a free printable document to download. [Weblink](#)
- The Wildlife Trust's '30 Days Wild' suggests free nature activities for kids throughout June. These are ideas for outdoor activities to keep your kids busy throughout June and throughout the summer. [Weblink](#) Download them before the end of the month.
- Yoga Cosmic Kids provide Yoga adventures, watch online and follow the exercises Fairies Floss Yoga for primary children. [Weblink](#) Fairies and Trolls Yoga [Weblink](#)

